UNITED STATES DISRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO EASTERN DIVISION

KIMBERLY J. WHITT,

Plaintiff,

v. Case No. 2:20-cv-6578
JUDGE EDMUND A. SARGUS, JR.
Magistrate Judge Chelsey M. Vascura

COMMISSIONER OF SOCIAL SECURITY,

Defendant.

<u>ORDER</u>

This matter is before the Court on the parties' Joint Motion for Attorney Fees Under the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412. (ECF No. 21.) The Court hereby **GRANTS** the parties' joint motion and awards Plaintiff EAJA fees of \$4,500.00 and costs of \$0.00, for a total award of \$4,500.00. Counsel for the parties shall verify whether Plaintiff owes a preexisting debt to the United States subject to offset, consistent with *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586 (2010). If no such pre-existing debt exists, Defendant shall pay the EAJA award directly to Plaintiff's counsel pursuant to the EAJA assignment signed by Plaintiff.

This case is to remain terminated on the docket of this Court.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

12/9/2021 **DATE** s/Edmund A. Sargus, Jr.
EDMUND A. SARGUS, JR.

UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE